

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 12-19 remain active in this application. Claims 1-11 canceled and Claims 12 and 14 amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 3, 10 and 12-19 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (5,889,560) in view of Chida (6,313,863); Claims 3 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Chida as applied to Claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Kitayama (5,418,762); Claim 4 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Chida as applied to Claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Kohiyama et al (5,666,161); Claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Chida as applied to Claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Okada et al (5,854,799); Claims 6, 7 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee and Chida as applied to Claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Okada et al (5,854,799); Claim 8 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, Chida and Jeong as applied to Claims 1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 and further in view of Okada et al; Claim 11 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form; and Claims 12-19 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 11-19 includes allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, and to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, Claims 1-11 have been canceled subject to Applicants' right to file a

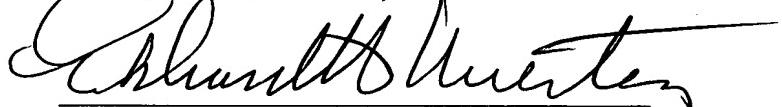
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continuation application directed to the subject matter of Claims 1-11, and Claims 12 and 14 have been amended as suggested in the outstanding Official Action to correct the informalities identified in the outstanding Official Action.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment of Claims 12 and 14 and the indication that Claims 12-19 include allowable subject matter, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)  
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